



THE
HEALTH
OF
HYDE

1956

Borough of Hyde

*With the compliments
of the Medical Officer
of Health*

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Hyde



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BOROUGH OF HYDE

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1956

F. W. CAMPBELL BROWN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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BOROUGH OF HYDE HEALTH COMMITTEE

(31st December, 1956)

Chairman: His Worship the Mayor (Councillor H. Hibbert, J.P.)
Alderman B. S. Armitage Councillor Mrs. I. Jones
Councillor H. E. Dunkerley Councillor H. J. Leech
Councillor J. Hadfield Councillor Mrs. D. B. Norwood
Councillor A. Jolly Councillor A. Wilcox

HYDE DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

(Cheshire County Council)

(31st December, 1956)

Chairman—Mrs. D. Adamson

Vice-Chairman—Mrs. M. Barton

Ex-Officio—Alderman G. Astbury (Chairman, County Health Committee)
Councillor A. Whitley (Deputy Chairman, County Health Committee)

County Council—Mrs. M. Bayes, c.c.

S. T. Brookes, Esq., c.c.

W. Ford, Esq., c.c.

S. Rowe, Esq., c.c.

Hyde Borough Council—

Mrs. M. Bayes, c.c.

W. Breakey, Esq.

T. W. Dent, Esq.

L. Harwood, Esq.

H. Hibbert, Esq.

Mrs. I. Jones

E. F. Myles, Esq.

Mrs. D. Norwood

H. A. Taylor, Esq.

Tintwistle R.D.C.—Mrs. H. A. Bradley

Longdendale U.D.C.—S. F. Ellison, Esq.

Mrs. C. Williams

Co-opted Members—

Mrs. R. M. Frost, representing Longdendale U. D. C.

Mrs. M. E. Moody, representing Tintwistle R.D.C.

Mrs. M. Brown, representing Divisional Executive for Education

Dr. D. I. Livingstone, representing Local Medical Panel Committee

Mrs. H. Tinker, representing District Nursing Association

Mrs. D. Adamson, representing Hyde Borough Council

Mrs. M. Barton, representing Hyde Borough Council

J. Clegg, representing Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital

Management Committee

Mrs. S. Hogg (Ambulance only), representing N.E. Cheshire Committee

Clerk to the Committee—John Binns, Esq.

Staff of the Borough of Hyde Health Department 1956

Medical Officer of Health : *F. W. C. BROWN, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector : T. Nicholson.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors : H. Pike,
R. P. Jones (resigned 30th April, 1956)

Chief Clerk : *P. T. Beard.

Other Clerical Staff : F. B. Marshall, *Mrs. A. Bannister,
*Miss A. Buttery

Staff of Hyde Divisional Health and School Medical Services of the Cheshire County Council

Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer :

*F. W. C. BROWN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer :

Barbara Jones, M.B., Ch.B.

Dental Surgeon : Miss L. Kippen, L.D.S., D.P.D.

Chief Clerk : *P. T. Beard.

Ambulance Supervisor : F. Mellor, A.M.I.E.T.

Clerical Staff : *Mrs. A. Bannister, Miss S. Ainscough, Miss A. Jones
*Miss A. Buttery, Miss B. Higginbottom, Mrs. E. I. Cook.

Health Visitors/School Nurses : Miss F. Lonsdale, Miss D. Wood, Miss M.
Taylor, Miss M. E. Marsh, Miss N. P. M.
Trahan

Home Nurses—Hyde : Miss H. Sutton, Miss G. McClean,
(Part-time staff in addition)

Mottram and Broadbottom : Mrs. M. Huyton.

Hollingworth and Tintwistle : Mrs. G. E. Hewitt.

Midwives : Miss M. Coote, Mrs. J. H. Jones, Miss P. Kenyon,
Mrs. B. Glen (commenced 25th June, 1956)

Occupation Centre Supervisor : Mrs. M. Coombes

Domestic Help Supervisor : Mrs. F. Dobson (part-time)
commenced 4th October, 1956

† Clinical Specialists attending Clinics in the Division :

Orthopaedic Surgeon : C. M. Dransfield, F.R.C.S.

Gynaecologist : T. B. Fitzgerald, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G.

Ophthalmic Surgeon : B. Boas, M.D., (Berlin)

† Staff of Regional Hospital Board allocated to specific duties within the Hyde Division.

* Part-time Divisional Health, part-time Borough Health.

INTRODUCTION

The Personal Health Services available in the Borough

General Medical Practitioners.

Fifteen General Medical Practitioners reside within the Borough to supply the requirements of the population in the capacity of family physicians. Local administration of the General Medical, along with the Dental, Pharmaceutical and Ophthalmic Services is provided by the Executive Council for Cheshire which superseded the National Health Insurance Committee on the 5th July, 1948, and with whom the Medical Practitioners are under contract.

Hospital and Specialists' Services.

The Borough is situated within the area which is administered by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board whose duty it is to deal with the planning and maintenance of Hospitals, Public Health Laboratories, Tuberculosis and Blood Transfusion Services. It is also responsible for the organisation of the Consultant and Specialist Services for Patients attending Hospitals, at the Local Health Authorities Clinics, and, when requested, in the homes of the patients. The local Hospital Management Committee is responsible to the Regional Hospital Board for the day-to-day administration of the Hyde Hospital, the Aspland Maternity Home and the Hyde Physiotherapy Clinic which, along with all similar premises in Ashton and Glossop, constitute one group within the region.

The facilities provided for the hospitalisation of acute general medical and surgical cases and for tuberculosis appear, on the whole, to have met the demand. The effect of the prophylactic treatment of children against several of the infective diseases has rendered the need for retaining hospital accommodation for these at a very much reduced level compared with the period when local Infectious Diseases hospitals were almost a necessity in every area. Thus as in the case of Hyde hospital the bed accommodation is now available for other more necessary requirements.

Likewise the effect of improved methods in the ascertainment and treatment of tuberculosis is likely to allow the number of institutional beds reserved for such cases to be used for other purposes, and sanatoria will eventually follow the fate of the Infectious Diseases hospitals.

In the case of the hospitalisation for childbirth, the accommodation in Ashton General Hospital has, through necessity, had to be reduced temporarily. In consequence of this a swing of the pendulum towards normal confinements taking place in the patient's own home has developed. With the gradual improvement of housing conditions becoming manifest through slum clearance and with improved facilities for ante-natal supervision for the detection of abnormal conditions likely to warrant the confinement being conducted in hospital, this is not likely to produce any ill effect within the maternity services in general, and this swing will become more manifest during the present year.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the chronic sick type of case remains acute although the waiting period for admission would appear to have been reduced by the policy of re-habilitating some cases which can be discharged to their homes where relatives can give them attention. For those cases where permanent residential accommodation must remain as the only solution, better co-operation between the hospitals and the institutions administered by the Local Health Authorities and voluntary organisations is badly required, thereby allowing a system of exchange of patients according to the degree and type of their incapacity.

This town is fortunate in having a voluntary organisation—The Borough of Hyde Welfare for Aged, Infirm and Lonely People Committee—which administers two hostels providing 51 beds for suitable cases, and further extension is envisaged in the near future. These hostels supply the needs of only a small percentage of the cases, the larger proportion having to be accommodated at some distance from their native surroundings in hostels coming under the jurisdiction of the Cheshire County Council Welfare Department. The factor of distance from their homes frequently acts as a deterrent in persuading old residents to accept a place in these institutions.

Facilities exist within the town for the treatment of the majority of cases requiring physiotherapy following injury, rheumatic and allied conditions in which massage, electrical treatment, etc., are indicated. The Hyde Orthopaedic After-Care Committee is under contract with the Hospital Authority for the day to day management of the treatment centre in Hyde at which approximately 3,000 treatments are carried out monthly under the supervision of a visiting Orthopaedic Surgeon employed by the Hospital Board.

The advantage to the local residents and to the ambulance service must be obvious in that frequent visits over prolonged periods as would be entailed in undertaking the journey to hospitals for similar treatments are avoided.

The obligations for supplying treatment by Local Authorities are limited and are confined to preventive measures towards the elimination of infective disease and to conservative dental treatment of pregnant mothers and children under school leaving age. The functions of these statutory bodies are primarily those pertaining to the environment of the individual with the object of seeking out and eliminating the need for treatment, and in providing ancillary services for the needs of the patients receiving treatment provided under the powers vested in the Executive Health Committees and Hospital Boards.

The information in the following pages contains the substance of the functions which are properly the responsibility of the Local Authority of this Borough and of the Cheshire Local Health Authority insofar as the Divisional Health Administrative Scheme of the County Council applies to Hyde.

August, 1957.

F. W. C. BROWN.

SECTION 1.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,195
Population (Census 1951)	31,494
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate for 1956)	32,180
Number of Inhabited Houses as at 31st December, 1956	11,606

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR—BIRTHS REGISTERED.

Legitimate	...	Males	211	Females	...	194	Total	405
Illegitimate	...	Males	11	Females	...	11	Total	22
								427
Crude Birth Rate	...	Hyde	13.3	England and Wales	...	15.6	—	
		Comparative Birth Rate	...	Hyde	14.4			

STILLBIRTHS

Legitimate ... Males	8	Females ...	3	Total	11
----------------------	---	-------------	---	-------	----

The number of births registered during 1956 was two more than the number recorded in the previous year; five less than the average of 443 for the previous five years.

Location of Births and Still-Births Notified.

The following table indicates the location of births during the period 1950-1956:—

No. born in	1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		1955		1956	
(a) Dwelling Houses	128	% 28	102	% 23	86	% 20	106	% 25	127	% 28	107	% 25	115	% 26
(b) Maternity Homes	214	46	246	54	192	44	177	41	201	43	179	41	181	40
(c) Hospitals	122	26	102	23	157	36	145	34	136	29	150	34	152	34
(d) Totals of (b) and (c)	336	72	348	77	349	80	322	75	337	72	329	75	333	74

DEATHS REGISTERED.

Males 222

Females 226

Total 448

Death Rate: Hyde 13.9

England and Wales 11.7

Comparative Death Rate: 13.9

The total number of deaths registered at all ages was 448 giving a crude death rate of 13.9 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the average figure of 14.2 for the previous five years.

For comparative purposes with other areas this rate—adjusted by using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General—is 14.0 per 1,000 population as against 11.7 for the whole country.

The actual causes of death as classified by the Registrar General are given in Table I.

The highest proportion of the total deaths is accounted for by diseases of the Heart and Circulation (36 per cent.), Haemorrhage of Brain (17 per cent.), Cancer (17 per cent.), diseases of the Respiratory Organs (11 per cent.) Vide Table I.

Approximately two-thirds of the deaths occurred in persons over pensionable age, the actual figures being:—

Deaths under 65 years of age	... ..	32.4 per cent.
Deaths between 65 and 74 years of age	... ..	30.1 per cent.
Deaths between 75 and 84 years of age	... ..	31.2 per cent.
Deaths 85 years and over	... ..	6.3 per cent.

The number of infants who died under the age of twelve months was 10, revealing an Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.4 per 1,000 births, compared with a rate of 23.8 for the whole country and 26.3 for the North West region.

Of these 4 occurred during the first week of life from causes which are analysed in Table 2.

TABLE 1—REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Congenital Malformations	1	2	3
Influenza	—	1	1
Measles	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—	1
*Cancer—Malignant Disease	43	34	77
Diabetes	1	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	35	38	73
Heart Diseases, (Angina, Coronary)	31	21	52
Other Heart Diseases	32	57	89
Other Circulatory Diseases	6	16	22
Bronchitis	23	9	32
Pneumonia (all forms)	6	6	12
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	3
Ulcer of the Stomach	2	—	2
Enteritis, etc.	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	4	6
Pregnancy	—	—	—
Motor Accidents	—	—	—
Other Accidents	5	2	7
Suicide and Homicide	5	2	7
Other Diseases	27	33	60
All Causes	222	226	448

*Of these deaths, the site of the disease was:-

Stomach	6	5	11
Lungs	17	1	18
Breast	—	8	8
Uterus	—	3	3
Other	20	17	37
	43	34	77

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Number of Deaths :		Deaths per 1000 Births :	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :	
Legitimate ...	9	Hyde ... 23.4	Legitimate ...	4
Illegitimate ...	1	Eng. & Wales ... 23.8	Illegitimate ...	—

TABLE 2. INFANTILE DEATHS, 1956

Causes of Death Among Infants	AGE											
	1st Four Weeks				1st Three Months				The Four Quarters			
	0-1	2	3	4	*0-1	2	3	*0-1	2	3	4	Total
Atelectasis ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Maldevelopment ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	...	...	3
Prematurity ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Haemorrhage in Brain ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
All Causes ...	4	...	...	...	4	2	...	6	2	1	1	10

* This column includes all deaths in preceding columns

SECTION II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The figures given in Tables 3 and 4 reveal the number of cases of infectious disease among the population.

TABLE 3.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1956

Notifiable Diseases	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 plus	Age Un- known	Total	Cases admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	5	8	12	59	6	—	2	—	93	2
Whooping Cough ...	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	—
Polio :-												
Paralytic ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Non-Paralytic...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia ...	1	1	6	3	—	2	1	1	16	—	31	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	—	8	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis :-												
Pulmonary	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	2	8	—	13	9
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	4	—
	3	5	12	16	13	63	10	5	35	1	163	15

TABLE 4.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1949-1956

This table indicates the trend of the more common infectious diseases since 1949:—

	Year 1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	139	113	90	38	62	17	30	93
Measles... ..	337	43	675(1)	46	552	445(2)	165	4
Whooping Cough ...	52(1)	106(1)	39(1)	9	96	67	22(1)	6
Poliomyelitis... ..	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
Tuberculosis of Lungs	29(11)	23(12)	18(10)	27(2)	18(7)	9(6)	20	13(1)
Tuberculosis of other sites	7(2)	8	3(2)	7(2)	6	4	7	4

(Figures in parentheses indicate deaths)

SECTION III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water Supply.

Domestic water is supplied by the Manchester Corporation (Woodhead supply) and by the Ashton Corporation. Both are moderately soft waters treated for purity at the source, but the former water frequently has a peaty discolouration. Four service reservoirs are used, one of which is of old stone-pitched construction, and none of which is covered.

The scheme for the modernisation and expansion of the Waterworks undertaking described in my report for 1955 is still awaiting approval by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. The appropriate Water Order authorising construction work is now being drawn up.

A local supply for industrial purposes is filtered, but is unfit for domestic use.

The yearly average daily consumption is 1.44 million gallons, or 45.6 gallons per head of which 0.63 million gallons or 20.0 gallons per head is the domestic consumption.

The water is supplied through approximately 63 miles of mains many of which are old and in need of cleaning and renewal. Three lengths of main have been reconditioned with very satisfactory results, further lengths are to be treated this year.

Corporation piped water supplies 11,451 dwellings in the Borough. Wells and springs are the source of supply to 120 farms and dwellings on the outskirts of the town and which cannot be considered satisfactory.

18 samples of Corporation drinking water were taken and all were found to be highly satisfactory. In addition 2 samples were taken of industrial supply.

Water supplied to the Swimming Baths is also regularly examined. During the year 2 samples of this water were examined, both of which were satisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

The number of premises fitted with closets of the various types at the end of 1956 was approximately:—

W.C's. with cistern flush	W.C's. hand flushed and waste water	Privies	Pails	Chemical Closets
7801	... 4510	... 12	... 98	8

To encourage the conversion of slop-closets to cistern-flushed W.C's. the Council provide a grant of £5 to be paid for each conversion in approved cases. Payment of these grants commenced on April 1st, 1948, and 50 grants were provided for in 1956 for all of which applications have been approved.

Receptacles in Use.

The number affecting the work of this department is made up as follows.-

Ashbins	Ashpits	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Cesspools
13083	... Nil	... 104	... 12	... 32

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following tabular statement has been prepared in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and contains information as to:-

- (a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year.
- (b) The number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices.
- (c) The results of the service of such notices.

TABLE 5. STATEMENT OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS FOR YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31st, 1956

Inspections		No. of Notices served		Results of Service of Notices		Notices Outstanding
Nature	Number	Informal	Statutory	Complied with by owner or occupier	Complied with by Corporation in default	
Certificates of Disrepair	39	...	...	...	...	...
Recorded Housing Inspections	74	...	...	...	...	...
Other Houses under P.H.A. or H.A.	864	298	76	302	5	67
Revisits to property under notice	1764	...	...	...	...	...
Courts, Yards and Passages	273	...	...	...	...	...
Pail Closets... ..	15	...	...	...	...	...
Ashbins and Ashpits	128	75	2	60	2	15
Pet Animals Act	19	...	...	...	...	...
Stables ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Piggeries	21	...	...	...	...	...
Slaughterhouses	183	...	...	...	...	...
Ice Cream Premises	3	...	...	...	...	...
Bakehouses... ..	28	...	...	...	...	...
Licensed Premises ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Food Premises	917	14	...	12	...	2
Farms and Dairies... ..	26	...	...	...	...	...
Milk—Tubercle Bacilli Samples	40	...	...	...	...	...
Methylene Blue Samples	40	...	...	...	...	...
Sediment Test Samples	4	...	...	...	...	...
Fat Test Samples	4	...	...	...	...	...
Pasteurised Samples	4	...	...	...	...	...
Sterilised Samples	5	...	...	...	...	...
Ice Cream Samples (Methylene Blue)	4	...	...	...	...	...
Water-Bacteriological and Chemical Samples	20	...	...	...	...	...
Observations and Visits re Smoke	41	...	...	...	...	...
Common Lodging Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Premises under P.H.A.	29	...	...	...	...	...
Factories with Mechanical Power... ..	42	13	...	12	...	1
Factories without Mechanical Power	1	...	...	...	...	...
Outworkers Premises	21	...	...	...	...	...
Visits re Rag Flock Act... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infectious Diseases	92	...	...	...	...	...
Vermineous Premises	78	...	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades	42	...	...	...	...	...
Rodent Control... ..	296	...	...	...	...	...
Public Conveniences	192	...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	17	...	...	...	...	...
Shops	22	...	...	...	...	...
Slop-Closet Conversions	271	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases of Animals Acts	28	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Removal	184	...	...	...	...	...
Refuse Disposal	80	...	...	...	...	...
Salvage... ..	58	...	...	...	...	...
Movable Dwellings	5	...	...	...	...	...
Cinemas, etc	12	...	...	...	...	...
Committees, etc.	67	...	...	...	...	...
Interviews	842	...	...	...	...	...
Dangerous Structures	1	...	...	...	...	...
Workplaces... ..	14	...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous	601	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	7511	400	78	386	7	85

TABLE 6.

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1956

Dwelling-houses

Defective ceiling construction	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
" plaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
" floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
" kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
" washboilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
" windows and cords	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
" doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
" staircases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
" damp proof courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
" sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
" sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
" skirting boards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
" water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
" roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
" external walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
" pointing and brickwork of walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
" chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
" yard paving or walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
" rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
" cavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
" dustbins and sanitary pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
" drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
" choked W.C's.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
" W.C. apparatus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
" W.C. buildings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Factories

Miscellaneous Nuisances	3
-------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Food Premises

Washing facilities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors, walls and ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

Total 906

HOUSING STATISTICS

Number of New Houses Erected During the Year :

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. By the Local Authority | 99 |
| 2. By other bodies or persons | 20 |

Inspection of Dwelling-Houses During the Year :

- | | |
|---|------|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 977 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for this purpose | 2741 |
| 2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 74 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 144 |
| 3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation... .. | 97 |
| 4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 72 |

Remedy of Defects During the Year Without Service of Formal Notice :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers | 153 |
|--|-----|

Action under Statutory Powers During the Year :

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:— | |
| (1) Number of houses in respect of which Notices were served | 81 |
| (2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied:— | |
| (a) By Owners | 39 |
| (b) By Local Authority | — |
| (b) Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act of 1936:— | |
| (1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 1 |
| (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 17 |
| (3) Number of houses in respect of which undertakings not to re-let were accepted | — |
| (4) Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 6 |

Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV.)—Overcrowding.

(a)	(I)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	...	...	9
	(II)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	9
	(III)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	65
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	—
(c)	(I)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	9
	(II)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	58

Defective Houses.

	1934-47	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	Total
Houses demolished or finally closed	397	1	2	17	7	5	—	7	36	73	545
Houses or parts of houses closed or vacated	54	—	11	1	1	1	3	20	18	6	115

Number of Persons Displaced from Houses to be Demolished or Closed :

From		Families	Persons		Total
			M	F	
Clearance Areas	... 1956 ..	74	...	116 115	... 231
Individual Houses	... 1956 ...	8	...	12 10	... 22
Total since inception of programme in 1934	... ..	708	1007	1164	2271

Re-Housing.

I am indebted to Mr. G. L. Simpson, Housing Officer for the following figures which refer to the re-housing of families in Corporation houses in 1956.

Total lettings (including exchanges and transfers)	...	...	...	226
Tubercular families re-housed	...	...	...	6
Overcrowded families re-housed	...	...	...	4
Families in Lodgings re-housed	...	...	...	29
Families in Unfit Houses re-housed	...	...	...	79

Certificates of Disrepair.

A total of 10 applications were received ; three of these were granted, 5 were not granted, and 2 were withdrawn before receiving consideration. One of the unsuccessful applications was from a tenant who had not received Notice of Rent Increase.

4 applications for revocation of Certificates of Disrepair were received, all were granted.

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

During the year 22 houses were disinfected following infectious disease. In addition, the following articles were destroyed at the request of their owners, following deaths, long illnesses, or for other reasons:—

Beds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	403
Bedsteads	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Mattresses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Pillows	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Bundles of Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76

14 houses were found to be bug infested, and were treated by the Department. Of these, 4 were Council houses. In conjunction with this work, 8 houses were given a “protective” treatment to prevent infestation.

Treatment was also carried out for the eradication of other insect pests from houses and food premises including

Beetles (cockroaches) etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Crickets!	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Earwigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Spider Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Insects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Rodent Control.

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, the Local Authority is responsible for inspecting the district to discover rodent infestations. The inspection and treatment of business premises, particularly food premises, occupies a large proportion of the time of the two rodent operators..

In addition, much work has been done in treating infestations in private dwellings (this work being carried out free of charge); in inspecting Local Authority property and treating where necessary; and in carrying out two "maintenance treatments" for the destruction of rats in sewers together with surface treatments of the Sewage Works.

The number of premises found to be infested during the year was 218 (99 rats, 119 mice). Of the 119 infestations by mice none could be classed as "serious." A total of 218 treatments was carried out to deal with these infestations, and the number of visits made was 3,714.

The following table gives details of the work done:-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1957
TYPE OF PROPERTY

		Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total	Agri- cultural
1	Total number of properties in Local Authority's district ..	15	11606	1062	12731	60
2	Number of properties inspected as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or (c) otherwise ...	(a) — (b) 10 (c) —	91 538 —	35 517 —	126 1124 —	— 36 —
3	Total Inspections carried out including re-inspections	234	1878	1270	3382	36
4	No. of properties inspected in Section II. which were found to be infested by :-					
	(a) Rats } Major	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor	12	64	23	99	—
	(b) Mice } Major	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor	2	79	38	119	—
5	Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	14	143	61	218	—
6	Total treatments carried out in- cluding re-inspections ...	18	151	63	232	—
7	Number of Notices served under section 4—					
	(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Structural works (i.e.) Proofing	—	4	—	4	—
8	Number of "Block" Control schemes carried out ...	—	2	1	3	—

It was not found necessary to take any proceedings under the Act

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors

Premises 1	M/c line No. 2	Number on Register 3	Number of			M/c line No. 7
			Inspections 4	Written Notices 5	Occupiers Prosecuted 6	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	37	1	—	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	200	42	13	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	3	1	1	—	3
TOTAL ...		240	44	14	—	

2—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars 1	M/c line No. 1	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which proceedings were instituted 7	M/c line No. 8
		Found 3	Remedied 4	Referred to H.M. Insp'tor 5	Referred by H.M. Insp'tor 6		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3)	6	1	1	—	1	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—							
(a) Insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	11	10	—	8	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	1	1	—	—	—	11
Other Offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ...		13	12	—	9	—	

3—OUTWORKERS. 63 outworkers were registered, all of whom make wearing apparel. No offences against this Section were reported

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

In August, 1950, the Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping, and Delivery of Food came into operation in the Borough. The Council has also approved a Code of Practice for Food Traders, in conjunction with the Councils of eight neighbouring Local Authorities, in an effort to obtain uniformity over a fairly wide area.

Milk Supply (Registration and Licences).

Under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, and the various Milk (Special Designations) Regulations of that year, there are 166 registered Milk Distributors and 14 registered Dairies, and the following licences have been issued:—

22 dealers' licences and 3 supplementary licences in respect of Tuberculin Tested milk, 21 dealers' licences and 3 supplementary licences in respect of Pasteurised milk, and 144 dealers' licences and 3 supplementary licences for Sterilised milk.

Tests for Cleanliness, etc.

40 samples of raw milk were examined of which 36 satisfied the Methylene Blue Test and 4 were unsatisfactory; 4 samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted to the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests, all being satisfactory; and 5 samples of Sterilised milk were submitted to the Turbidity Test, all of which were satisfactory. These samples were examined in the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester. Sediment Tests were carried out on 4 samples and Gerber Tests on 4 samples in the Department, all of which satisfied the tests.

Tests by Inoculation of Guinea Pigs for Tubercle Bacilli.

The main object of sampling is the search for Tuberculosis, and the result of this year's work compared with the results in previous years is shown in the table below.

Of the 40 samples of milk submitted to examination 1 or 2.5 per cent. were found to contain Tubercle Bacilli. In the case where positive result was obtained the appropriate County Medical Officer of Health was notified, the offending animal traced, if possible, and destroyed in accordance with the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

The figures for the past 5 years are shown below:—

Year		No. of samples examined	No. of samples found to contain Tubercle Bacilli		Percentage containing Tubercle Bacilli	
1952	...	129	...	3	...	2.33
1953	...	89	...	5	...	5.62
1954	...	55	...	6	...	10.90
1955	...	46	...	4	...	8.69
1956	...	40	...	1	...	2.50

Ice Cream.

There are 6 manufacturers and 110 vendors of Ice Cream on the register. Of the manufacturers, three manufacture Ice Cream regularly, one makes it only occasionally, and the remaining two retail a pre-packed Ice Cream manufactured elsewhere.

During the year four samples were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test, all of which were satisfactory. Two of these were of Ice Cream manufactured outside the Borough.

Meat Inspection.

Until the end of meat rationing early in July, 1954, there was no regular slaughtering in Hyde, but our Inspectors examined meat at the M.O.F. No. 2 Slaughterhouse in Stockport, on a rota shared with Inspectors from Marple, Denton, Audenshaw, and Bredbury and Romiley U.D.C's.

Since then only two small private slaughterhouses in the borough have been licensed as the majority of the local butchers find that adequate supplies of meat are available from Manchester, Stockport and other neighbouring towns

The following particulars show the numbers of carcasses inspected and the quantity of unsound meat condemned during the year by our Inspectors:—

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclu- ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	231	265	17	43	—
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :-					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	21	40	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	9.09	15.9	—	—	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :-					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	3	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	27	64	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with Tuber- culosis	11.26	24.15	—	—	—

Disease or Condition.

								Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs
Bovine Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	19	0	17
Fascioliasis	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...		5	0	11
Telangiectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	0	20
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			1	13
Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			1	24
Oedema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		4	0	0
Taint and Bacterial Spoilage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		11	2	20
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				7
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	1	1
Total								3	3	1	1
Other Foods—Canned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	0	10
„ Not Canned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	0	0
Total								4	11	1	11

Diseases of Animals Acts.

32 licences reporting movements of animals were received during the year and the necessary visits and inspections were made.

Routine inspections were carried out during the year, but no offences were recorded.

Shops Hours of Closing Acts.

Routine inspections were carried out during the year, but no offences were recorded.

SECTION IV.

This Section deals with services transferred for administrative purposes on the 5th July, 1948, to the Local Health Authority, i.e. the Cheshire County Council, and includes the services available in Longdendale and Tintwistle, and of which the day-to-day administration is under the control of the Hyde Divisional Health Committee.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

General Clinics and Welfare Centres.

HYDE (Parsonage Street)—These premises belong to the Hyde Corporation and are rented to the County Council for use as an all-purpose Clinic Centre.

The sessions administered by the County Council are devoted to the care of mothers and young children and number three half-days per week. Services administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board are provided upon eleven sessions per week—ten being devoted to Physiotherapy and one to Ante-Natal supervision of cases prior to admission to hospitals and maternity homes.

The days upon which examination and treatment sessions are held are summarised as follows:—

Monday to Friday: Physiotherapy treatment sessions—both a.m. and p.m.

Tuesday 2 - 4-30 p.m.: Ante-Natal, for cases to be admitted to Maternity Institutions and at which a Consultant and staff from the Aspland Maternity Home attend.

Wednesday 2 - 4-30 p.m.: Child Welfare Clinic at which a Medical Officer and two Health Visitors attend.

*Thursday 10 - 12-30 a.m.: Child Welfare Clinic session at which one Health Visitor attends.

*Thursday (1st and 3rd)) 10 - 12-30 a.m.: Toddlers' Clinic (by appointment) at which a Medical Officer and Health Visitor attend.

Thursday 2 - 4-30 p.m.: Ante-Natal, for cases who desire their confinement to take place at home under the care of private practitioners and domiciliary midwives. A Medical Officer, Health Visitor and Midwives attend. (As from the 6th September this Clinic, hitherto held each alternate week, has been held weekly.)

Friday 2 - 4-30 p.m.: Orthopaedic Consultant's weekly session.

*These sessions commenced on the 6th September in lieu of Child Welfare Thursday p.m. sessions now discontinued.

For cleaning and maintenance purposes, a resident caretaker/cleaner is employed by the County Council.

Commencing on the 6th September, 1956, an alteration to the times of holding M. and C.W. Clinic sessions at Parsonage Street Centre was made upon the recommendation of the County Medical Officer in order to (a) institute special sessions to which children aged two years could be examined on alternate weeks by appointment and to which infants could also attend weekly and (b) to enable additional ante-natal sessions to be devoted to expectant mothers.

One good feature of the services now provided is that relaxation exercises given to pregnant patients have been markedly extended to cover cases referred by the Ante-Natal Clinics and by family doctors. These classes are undertaken by the Physiotherapy staff once per week and all are well attended.

These changes have, unfortunately, necessitated the discontinuance of the usual Thursday afternoon session for infants and children, in order to provide the weekly Mothers' Ante-Natal session on that particular day.

Four months experience of this experimental change has revealed that, whilst the Ante-natal work can be carried out to better advantage and the Toddlers' attendance is moderately satisfactory, the attendance of infants has been adversely affected, e.g. the average attendance at the Wednesday afternoon clinic has now increased by approximately 50 per cent to 80 per session, thereby overloading the premises (on one occasion 126 attended) whereas the new Thursday morning infants' session with an average of only 5.5 is proving a wastage of staff time.

The change also necessitates the transfer of weighing scales and other equipment from one part of the building to another, in order to provide for the ante-natal relaxation classes and physiotherapy treatment in the rooms previously allotted for child welfare purposes on Thursdays.

The attendance of so many mothers and children on Wednesdays has, in addition, produced a serious lack of space for prams which now obstruct the main passage-way inside the building; patients at times have failed to gain entry; others come and leave when they find that their prams must remain outside the building. If, therefore, these arrangements become a permanent feature a pram shelter in the grounds is a necessity. This alone, however, would not relieve the congestion of patients.

The effect of these alterations has come as no surprise to your Divisional Medical Officer, who is also apprehensive of what will undoubtedly happen during the Wednesday afternoon sessions in the summer months when attendances usually exceed those of the winter period.

With the tendency for new housing development taking families from the centre to the periphery of the town, the provision of a Clinic in the Gee Cross area would be beneficial to the increasing number of children inhabiting that district and would, to some extent, solve the need for relieving the congestion in the Parsonage Street premises by other means.

These premises, originally built for M. and C.W. services as part of the Hyde 1914-18 War Memorial, at the present day provide a unit in the National Health Service and which is certainly being put to beneficial general use to a greater extent than prior to the inauguration of that service.

However, with the greater expansion of the Physiotherapy Services provided in it by the Hyde Orthopaedic After-Care Committee, acting on behalf of the Hospital Board, the floor space available for the Cheshire Local Health Authority to extend the Maternity and Child Welfare Services is entirely inadequate. It would be well to remind the members of the Divisional Health Committee that the County Council is the sole tenant responsible for the overhead charges against which they recover 10/- per week only for the one-weekly Hospital Ante-Natal Session.

HYDE (Bayley Hall)—These premises situated in Hyde Public Park, comprise a section of Bayley Hall, and were specifically planned as an M. and C.W. Clinic by the Hyde Corporation. The County Council occupy these premises upon a rental basis. Two regular clinic sessions per week are held for child welfare and immunisation purposes. A Medical Officer and a Health Visitor attend the Monday session, that held on Friday is attended by a Health Visitor only.

Members of the M. and C.W. Voluntary Committee assist the Health Visitors, and a member of the Clerical Staff attends for the sale of infant foods, etc.

The premises are used upon occasions to supplement the examination of school children, immunisation etc. when accommodation at Parsonage Street and the School Clinic is fully occupied.

Cleaning and general maintenance is undertaken by a member of the staff of the Parks Superintendent.

HOLLINGWORTH—The premises on Wedneshough Green, are used as a multi-purpose Clinic providing facilities for Ante-Natal, Child Welfare, and School Children and for Immunisation sessions.

Accommodation is also provided for the storage of infant foods etc. and as a loan store for the nursing requisites previously accommodated at the Hollingworth Council Offices.

The days upon which the sessions are held, are as under:—

Monday (2nd) (2-4 p.m.)	:	Immunisation, at which a Medical Officer and Health Visitor attend.
Tuesdays (2-3 p.m.)	:	School Clinic, at which a Health Visitor attends.
3-5 p.m.)	:	Ante-natal, at which a Health Visitor and Midwife attend.
Thursday 1st and 3rd (2-4 p.m.)	:	Child Welfare, at which a General Practitioner and Health Visitor attend.

Interior decoration of the premises was completed at the end of the year.

TINTWISTLE—This Clinic is held in Christ Church School on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The staff consists of a local Medical Practitioner and a Health Visitor.

Members of the local Ladies' Voluntary Committee assist by providing teas, the sale of infant foods and in clerical duties.

BROADBOTTOM—The Clinic is held in the Methodist Church School on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

The staff consists of a local Medical Practitioner and a Health Visitor, who are assisted by a local Ladies' Voluntary Committee as in the case of Hollingworth and Tintwistle Clinics.

The following figures indicate the number of young children and mothers dealt with during the year, along with comparative figures of the average attendances for the past five years.

TABLE 1A (Children).

					No. of Sessions	New Cases	Total atten- dances	Ex'd. by Doctor	Average Attendances Year Pre- 1956 vious 5 yrs.	
Hyde (Parsonage Street)	...	...	...	...	102	222	4661	965	46	56
Hyde (Bayley Hall)	...	...	...	...	98	182	3734	457	38	38
Hollingworth	...	...	...	...	24	41	1281	224	53	67
Tintwistle	...	...	...	...	24	21	704	118	29	27
Broadbottom	...	...	...	...	24	16	565	120	24	29

TABLE 1B (Mothers).

					Number of Sessions	New Cases	Ex'd by Doctor	Total Atten- dances	Pre- vious 5 yrs. aver.
Parsonage Street (ante-natal)	...	...	...	...	32	141	592	603	162
*Ante-natal Relaxation Classes	...	...	...	...	17	37	—	192	—
Dental (ante-natal)	...	...	...	...	—	18	—	40	27
Dental (post-natal)	...	...	...	...	—	24	—	68	80

*These figures relate only to the period 27th August onwards.

Specialised Clinics.

An Orthopaedic Surgeon, employed by the Hospital Board, attends once per week and upon other occasions if necessary for cases referred to him by family practitioners and from Medical Officers on account of crippling conditions in children and adults.

A Gynaecologist, employed by the Hospital Board, attends once per week for cases referred for the Ante-Natal supervision of those wishing to enter Hospitals or Maternity Homes for their confinement period.

Ophthalmic and Dental cases are referred to the School Clinic in the Reform Club.

TABLE II.

								New Cases	Attendances	Professional Consultations
Orthopaedic (Hospital Clinic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	111	243	377
Gynaecological (Ante-natal Hospital Clinic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168	336	336
Ultra Violet Ray	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	157	1909	99
Ophthalmic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	42	42
Dental - Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	116	116
Mothers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	442	108	108

TABLE III(a).
WELFARE FOODS

	Proprietary Milk Foods Packets	Total Sales	Other Nourishments (Proprietary) Total Sales
Hyde—Parsonage Street	1318	£204 3s. 3d.	£79 2s. 10d.
Hyde—Bayley Hall	1418	£217 19s. 6d.	£85 7s. 6d.
Other Clinics (supplied by Voluntary Committee—Amounts not available)			

NATIONAL WELFARE FOODS DISTRIBUTION

The main distribution centre located at Water Street School, Hyde, is open daily and from which the foods are distributed to six subsidiary centres within the area—chiefly to M. and C.W. Clinics by vehicles of the Ambulance Service. The main distribution centre at Mottram Court Room was closed as from 31/3/56 as the availability of the foods at clinics did not warrant this centre being continued.

Beneficiaries entitled to obtain these foods have therefore good opportunities of obtaining them at widely separated points and at hours convenient to themselves. Supplies are obtained by surrendering coupons for tokens (issued to the beneficiary by the Ministry of National Insurance) to which must be affixed stamps to the value of the particular food required.

The following Table indicates the issues of Welfare Foods, etc. in the Division during the year.

TABLE III(b).

	£	s.	d.
National Dried Milk—10,737 tins at 10½d. each	469	4	10½
National Dried Milk—57 tins at 4/- each	11	8	0
National Dried Milk—46 tins Free			
Orange Juice—23,344 bottles at 5d. each	486	6	8
Orange Juice—95 bottles Free			
Cod Liver Oil—3,436 bottles Free			
Vitamin A. and D.—1,488 packets Free			

It has been noted that during the past year there has been a tendency for the choice of proprietary milk foods to increase in preference to national food. On the other hand, the quantity of national orange juice issued has increased. The cause for these trends is probably mainly economic, giving rise to an increase in breast-feeding and the high cost of proprietary fruit syrups.

Visiting in the Homes by Health Visitors.

The present establishment of Health Visitors for the Division is five in number. In addition to attendance at the various Clinics, these nurses form a very important link between the patient and other sections of the general health services, particularly with the family doctors and those statutory authorities which deal with the health and welfare of all sections of the community.

The figures contained in the following Table cover only their work for which this Committee is responsible and can be estimated at approximately 75 per cent. of their full duties. In their capacity as School Nurses they, in addition, are responsible for the home visiting of ailing school children, cleanliness inspections, clinic treatment of scholars, and liason with other officials responsible to the Divisional Education Executive.

TABLE IV.

NUMBERS AND TYPES OF VISITS TO THE HOMES.

	Mothers Ante- Natal	Under 1 yr.	Children 1-5 years	School	Re Home Helps	T.B.	Mental Cases	After Care	Other
Hyde	360	3210	6399	475	517	536	48	619	520
Longdendale and Tintwistle	186	1010	2435	341	75	71	27	373	292
1956	546	4220	8834	816	592	607	75	992	812
Total 1955	415	4451	9247	521	523	676	44	872	646

The total number of visits paid was 17,494—an increase of 99 over the previous year.

Three of the Health Visitors possess motor-cars which they use in the performance of their duties, and for which travelling expenses are provided by the County Council under the Essential Car User scheme of payments.

Factory Nurseries.

Two Industrial Day Nurseries in the Division have received supervisory attention by the Divisional Medical Officer, and the children are medically inspected annually by the Assistant County Medical Officer.

Domiciliary Nursing Service

For the Hyde area two full-time nurses reside at 17, Henry Street, Hyde, which is property belonging to the County Council. The living conditions are good and there is adequate room for the storage of nursing equipment for issue on terms of loan to patients.

Additional storage room for invalid wheel-chairs has of necessity been provided at the premises rented for Welfare Food purposes in Water Street School.

The two full-time nurses accommodated in these premises are assisted by part-time non-resident staff in attending to the needs of sick persons in their own homes.

Two motor cars owned by the Council are available for the exclusive use of the full-time nurses and these have enabled the work to be undertaken expeditiously.

Two full-time nurses, residing in their own homes, cover similar requirements in the Longdendale and Tintwistle areas. One of the nurses owns a motor car, which enables her to cover the rather scattered district allotted to her, the running costs being borne by the County Council.

The number (with comparative figures for 1955) of cases attended by the District Nursing Service of the Division are as under, and reveals an increase of 224 visits having been paid in the year compared with the previous year and an increase of 4,181 visits paid in the year 1949, being the first complete year's numbers since the National Health Service commenced.

	Cases		Total Visits Paid	
	(1955)		(1955)	
Hyde	372	(378)	12665	(12449)
Mottram and Broadbottom ...	84	(82)	2709	(2635)
Hollingworth and Tintwistle ...	108	(114)	3292	(3358)
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	564	(574)	18666	(18442)
	<hr/>		<hr/>	

Provision of Nursing Requisites.

Patients nursed in their own homes by the Domiciliary Nurses can be provided with nursing requisites on a loan basis. Articles such as bed-pans, crutches, etc., are stored at the house (17, Henry Street) provided for the resident nurses in Hyde. A small returnable deposit enables most of these articles to be obtained; in the case of wheel-chairs, beds, and the more expensive articles a small weekly rental charge is made in addition to the deposit.

The following requisites have been issued during the year from this store:—

Air-rings and cushions	...	...	71	Hot water bottles	...	...	...	5
Rubber-sheets	...	...	36	Carrying chair	...	...	...	1
Bed-pans	...	...	73	Bed cradles	...	...	...	2
Back-rests	...	...	24	Feeding cups	...	...	...	10
Urinals	...	...	28	Draw-sheets	...	...	...	8
Wheel-chairs	...	...	13	Douche cans	...	...	...	2
Crutches	...	...	10	Bed and Mattress	...	...	...	1

Returnable deposits on equipment loaned to patients amounted to £40 7s. 0d. and £23 15s. 6d. was paid by patients for the use of equipment.

In the case of the Mottram and Broadbottom areas, two small stores are kept in private houses for which a rental of 10/- per annum is paid to the occupants.

For cases in the Hollingworth and Tintwistle districts nursing equipment is stored at the Hollingworth Clinic.

Nurses Residence—Shaw Hall.

This house is in a good state of repair and provides living accommodation for two nurses.

The premises comprise one furnished and one unfurnished flat for which rentals are paid by the nurses.

Both flats are at present occupied by Health Visitors attached to the Stalybridge and Dukinfield Division.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

The following statistical information is compiled from particulars received from general practitioners. It is probable that the total numbers exceed those reported to the department.

	Age under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	Total 1956	(1955)
Number vaccinated	122	8	17	53	26	226	(288)
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	—	3	27	30	(19)

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

B.C.G. vaccination is available at the Chest Clinic and hospitals in this vicinity to children and nurses who are close contacts of actual cases of this disease. This treatment is also available to school children of the 13 year age group, and is undertaken by the Assistant County Medical Officer.

Treatment was carried out in six schools in the Division (the Grammar School, Leigh Street, Greenfield Street, Flowery Field, St. Paul's and Hollingworth Secondary) and the following results were obtained:-

Number of children eligible for treatment ...	593
Of these, Parental consent was given in ...	371 (63%)
Pre-vaccination tests revealed that (a) ...	92 had acquired natural protection
(b) ...	255 were susceptible to T.B.) (66%)
Of (b) the number vaccinated was ...	249
Of the 249 tested following vaccination 8 weeks later ...	249 were successfully protected (100%) — remained susceptible to T.B.
Of 433 cases previously treated in 1954 and 55 ...	430 remained protected 3 lost their protection

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

The figures contained in the following table indicate the protective treatments given against these infective diseases of childhood. It is common practice in the majority of cases to use a protective agent which is effective against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

	Primary and Reinforcing Treatments				Total under 15	
	Age under 1	Ages 1-4	Ages 5-9	Ages 10-14	1956	(1955)
Diphtheria (Primary)	235	115	48	—	398	(536)
Diphtheria (Reinforcing)	—	—	293	—	293	(415)
Whooping Cough						
(Primary)	231	82	1		314	(462)

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

During the early part of the year the Ministry of Health gave approval of the inauguration of a scheme whereby a British prepared Anti-Poliomyelitis Vaccine could be offered to parents of children born in the years 1947 to 1954. Widespread publicity was given to all concerned and a system of registering the names of the children by order of the month of birth within the above age group was put in hand by the 23rd March.

The number of children so registered following their parents' consent was 1326 i.e. 35 per cent. of those eligible for treatment. Vaccine was delivered during May and June and was sufficient to give complete protection with two treatments to only 156 i.e. 12 per cent. of these children. These were treated by your Medical Officer in Clinics at Hyde and Hollingworth.

During November, a further small amount of Vaccine was received but was only sufficient partly to protect five children who will receive completion of protection early in 1957.

Due to the scarcity in the supply of Vaccine, very stringent measures were adopted in the selection of these children. Specific age groups were selected by the Ministry of Health and could not be varied.

The desire for protection against the disease by the parents was shown to be very great, as was evidenced by the excellent response to the invitations for treatment.

No undue reactions to the injections were evident, and one can only judge that the resumption of the treatment during 1957 will meet with the same success.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT.

During the year convalescent home accommodation was provided for one adult. One mother and two of her children were accommodated at the Brentwood Recuperative Centre, Marple.

The total cost amounted to £59 0s. 0d. towards which £2 16s. 0d. was assessed as chargeable to the patients.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The numbers and types of cases for whom domestic assistance was provided in their homes during 1956 are as under:—

Maternity Cases	...	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	5
Aged Sick or Infirm Persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Other Sick Persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
									<hr/>
									143
									<hr/>

This is an increase of 29 compared with last year and is greater than in any previous year.

All the Domestic Helps are employed as temporary staff, one works upon a full-time basis and a further number, which has varied between 11 and 13 upon a part-time basis. The total number of hours worked was 15,407½.

The patients are charged in accordance with the income of the household, the actual cost to them being assessed by reference to the County Council Assessment Scale. The charges ranged from 3d. to 2/10 per hour until 3rd September, when the maximum charge was increased to 3/3 per hour.

The amount charged to the patients was £456 1s. 11d. of which £3 16s. 7d. was written off as being "irrecoverable".

In general, this service is tending to grow in proportion to the increasing number of people in the older age groups.

During the year 592 visits to the homes were paid by the Health Visiting Staff for this type of case.

In order to relieve the Senior Health Visitor of Supervisory duties in connection with this service, a part-time Supervisor commenced duties on the 4th October. Following the assessment of need in new cases by a Health Visitor, the Supervisor is responsible for recruitment of helps, allocation of their duties, visiting the applicant for the information required upon the financial aspect, and supervising in general the work undertaken for the applicant.

The Supervisor paid 146 visits in this connection from the 4th October, to the end of the year.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

Tuberculosis.

The Consultant Chest Physicians carry out the major part of their duties at the Chest Clinic administered by the Hospital Boards but part of their time is allocated to the Local Health Authorities, thereby ensuring some degree of co-ordination between these two sections of the service. The Health Visitors are responsible for the home visits relative to the care and after-care of these patients and periodic reports are prepared by them for submission to the Chest Physician.

Upon the preventive aspect also must be mentioned the facilities given for the protection of contacts of patients and of 13 year old children by B.C.G. inoculation as indicated on Pages 37 and 38.

The numbers recorded in the Tuberculosis Register on the 31st December, 1956 were as under:—

	Males		Females		Total
	Pulm.	Non Pulm	Pulm.	Non Pulm	
Hyde.....	84	11	70	24	189
Longdendale ...	9	1	11	3	24
Tintwistle	3	-	-	1	4
Totals ...	96	12	81	28	217

New cases and deaths from this disease show a steadily declining number; the number of new cases notified during the last five year period was 119, compared with 153 in the previous five year period and the deaths recorded for the five year period ending 1956 were 37 compared with 68 during the previous five year period.

Care of the Aged.

This age group of the community presents a problem concerning which much time and effort is given by all sections of this department.

The individual members in this group can be categorised in different sections depending upon several factors related to their home conditions, the degree and type of their infirmity or illness, and the amount of help which relatives are willing to provide so as to allow the old people to continue to live in their own homes.

Many prefer to remain in their own homes and for these domestic assistance and home nursing can be provided by the Local Health Authority—131 having been provided with domestic help during the year and many of whom received nursing attention in addition by the District Nurses on the Staff.

Some are found to be in urgent need of hospital treatment. In these cases application is made by their family doctor to the Geriatric Departments of the surrounding hospitals. It can be said that the long waiting period for admissions to Chronic Sick Wards has been reduced during 1956, but, nevertheless, the need for further beds appears a prime necessity.

For those who do not require medical and nursing care in hospitals, notwithstanding the accommodation available within the town itself, the majority are eventually found accommodation in Homes for Aged and Infirm persons administered by the County Welfare Committee.

The general picture of the position for which there is need for caring for the elderly would seem to have improved during the past year. One feature in the improved outlook of those remaining in their homes is the work undertaken by the local W.V.S. Meals on Wheels scheme whereby upon three days each week over 100 meals are provided at a cost of 1/- per recipient. The meals are prepared at local industrial canteens and transported by 18 members of the W.V.S. in private cars on a voluntary basis. The provision of a well-cooked wholesome meal by the ladies of the W.V.S. also promotes a welcome degree of help by the interest taken during the visit. The thought that some organisation exists to provide amenities which otherwise could not be obtained through the powers vested in statutory authorities relieves much of the anxiety so prevalent in the aged. The opportunity to discuss their wants and needs is looked forward to by most of the recipients of the meals, and the distribution of reading material, garments, etc. helps to make their lives brighter than would otherwise be the case.

Mental Health

The Duly Authorised Officer for the Hyde and Stalybridge District has investigated within the Hyde Division 61 cases referred to him on mental grounds, 34 of whom were admitted to mental hospitals and 12 for treatment at out-patients clinics.

Two recovered before admission to hospital could be arranged. In ten cases no action was taken by the Duly Authorised Officer after initial investigations. Two cases absconded from hospital and were returned by the officer and one patient left the district before admission to the hospital could be arranged.

Regular visits have also been paid by the Duly Authorised Officer to male mental defectives in their own homes

His assistance has been requested in arranging on behalf of general practitioners for the admission of seven Chronic Sick cases to hospitals and of five homeless persons to Institutional Accommodation on behalf of the County Welfare Officer.

OCCUPATION CENTRE

The Hyde Occupation Centre was opened on the 5th September, 1955, in the Gee Cross Methodist School, Stockport Road, Hyde.

The Staff comprises a Supervisor with two assistants, one daily domestic and a part-time kitchen help.

Accommodation is available for 35 ineducable children whose mental capacity is of low grade.

The hours upon which the Centre is open are from 9 a.m. to 3-15 p.m. on week-days, excluding week-ends and the usual holiday periods appertaining in the normal education system.

The mid-day meal provided is cooked at an elementary school canteen and for which a charge is made to parents.

At the termination of the year there were 32 children on the register, 8 from Hyde; 9 from Stalybridge/Dukinfield; and 15 from Bredbury and Romiley/Hazel Grove Divisions. The average attendance is 23, which can be considered very satisfactory in this type of child.

The responsibility for the conveyance of Hyde children to and from the Centre, is that of their parents, but in the case of children residing at greater distances transport is provided by the County Council.

A visit paid by an Inspector of the Board of Control was made during the year and no adverse comments as to the conduct of the management and control in operation have been received. An undoubted improvement in the conduct of the children by the training is obvious to anyone who has had personal knowledge of the cases prior to admission.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Hyde Division of the Cheshire County Ambulance Service operates in the districts of Hyde, Longdendale, Bredbury and Romiley and Tintwistle, covering an area of 23,832 acres of industrial and moorland country from Marple to the Yorkshire boundary at Holme Moss and populated by 55,338 persons.

The staff consists of one Supervisor, one Driver/Mechanic, two Attendants, one part-time and twelve full-time Drivers. No changes in personnel have taken place during the year.

Absence from duty through sickness accounted for 45 days during the year.

Proficiency certificates of the British Red Cross Society and/or St. John Ambulance Association were awarded to 13 members during the year.

Safe Driving Awards were gained by the following:—

- 7 Drivers—Bar to 5-year medal for 8 accident-free years
- 1 Driver—5-year medal for 5 accident-free years
- 3 Drivers—Diploma for 3 accident-free years
- 1 Driver—Diploma for 2 accident-free years
- 1 Driver—Diploma for 1 accident-free year

The Hyde Ambulance Vehicles made 5,959 journeys and conveyed 17,818 patients a total distance of 101,679 miles during 1956. Emergency cases requiring immediate attention, such as road, industrial and home accidents, sudden illness, maternity and other urgent cases, accounted for 1,610 calls..

The following table shows the figures for each month of the year:—

Month	Journeys	Patients	Emergencies	Mileage
January ...	579	1,653	120	9,821
February ...	534	1,641	138	8,924
March ...	549	1,754	139	9,428
April ...	466	1,484	109	8,349
May ...	479	1,445	113	7,876
June ...	451	1,325	138	7,388
July ...	454	1,294	122	7,813
August ...	440	1,137	134	7,569
September	500	1,333	136	8,271
October ...	518	1,567	149	8,762
November	518	1,692	160	9,161
December	471	1,493	152	8,317
Totals ..	5,959	17,818	1,610	101,679
1955 ...	6,660	18,516	1,969	102,645

The particulars shown below relate to the vehicles in use during the year:-

Ambulances	Year	Make	Mileage completed
No. 4 BBN 340	1940	Austin	128,682 Sold 23/11/56
No. 5 KLG 402	1940	Bedford	104,451 Transferred to C.D. Reserve
No. 6 MMA 473	1950	Bedford	151,149
No. 7 MMB 293	1950	Bedford	173,392
No. 8 OTU 184	1952	Austin	8,484
Sitting-case Vehicles			
No. 9 RTU 593	1953	Morris	81,837
No. 10 XMB 263	1956	Bedford	9,571 Delivered 6/7/56
No. 11 XMB 274	1956	Bedford	2,543 Delivered 26/11/56
No. 12 DJA 394	1949	Vanguard	132,820 Sold 18/12/56

The following analysis shows details of the work done by each vehicle together with the average number of miles per gallon.

AMBULANCES.

Vehicle No.	Journeys	Patients	Emergencies	Mileage	M. P. G.
No. 4	18	48	—	504	9.7
No. 5	449	1,692	102	4,988	6.4
No. 6	1,286	3,697	471	20,160	10.3
No. 7	1,542	4,269	656	24,260	12.4
No. 8	47	153	20	1,624	12.4
Totals	3,342	9,859	1,249	51,536	10.6

SITTING-CASE VEHICLES.

No. 9	1,337	4,143	219	24,789	19.9
No. 10	449	1,698	64	9,375	23.5
No. 11	111	359	23	2,190	23.0
No. 12	720	1,759	55	13,789	16.9
Totals	2,617	7,959	361	50,143	19.6

Arrangements were made during the year for the long-distance transport of 26 patients by ambulance and train for a total distance of 2,605 miles.

One ambulance garaged at Hyde Hospital and used primarily for infectious cases was sold during the year and the part-time services of the driver/porter were terminated.

The addition of two light ambulances to replace one heavy ambulance and the Vanguard sitting-case car is proving of advantage in several ways including a reduction of petrol consumed.

Improvements carried out at the Ambulance Station include the decoration of the staff canteen and limewashing of the garage.

SECTION V.

The Schools Health Service

The Assistant County Medical Officer and the Clerk Attendant are directly under the control of the County Medical Officer and report to him upon all aspects of the medical examination of the children which is compulsory and undertaken at three periods during their school life. Any ailment discovered at these routine medical examinations is reported to the parents for the necessary treatment to be carried out by the family doctor, and the children in question are reviewed at subsequent visits to the schools by the School Medical Officer. The Health Visitors follow up the cases by paying home visits to parents.

Children suffering from minor ailments can be referred by teachers and parents to the School Clinic which is held upon three sessions per week, for dressings, etc. by the Health Visitor, and at which the Medical Officer attends once weekly.

Pupils found to require more specialised forms of treatment are, in the first instance, referred to the family doctor; if no objection is raised by the parent or doctor, arrangements are made for examination by the appropriate consultant service; viz. defective vision and hearing, tonsillectomy, orthopaedic treatment, etc.

The majority of pupils in need of spectacles are dealt with by the eye specialist who attends at the regular Eye Clinic Sessions at the School Clinic.

Operative treatment for tonsillectomy at nearby hospitals, is available either by arrangements made by the family doctor, or by the Medical Officer.

Educationally sub-normal pupils are examined by the School Medical Officer and referred directly to the County Medical Officer for placing in institutions appropriate to the degree of mental defect found, and which range from Special Schools for suitable instruction according to their degree of backwardness to an Occupation Centre for the totally ineducable type—26 having been examined during 1956 for this purpose.

The Torpenhow Open Air School in the Wirrall is available for delicate children and to which 23 Hyde pupils were sent for periods of six months during 1956.

Cleanliness inspections are carried out upon all pupils upon at least three occasions annually by the Health Visitors in their capacity as School Nurses. Only 2.6 per cent. of the number examined were found to have evidence of vermin in the hair and which must be considered as very satisfactory.

The opportunity to have pupils of the age of 13 years tested for the liability to develop Tubercular disease was offered to 593 during 1956. The Assistant County Medical Officer carried out the tests, and treated the susceptible cases with B.C.G. vaccine (Vide page 38).

Speech Therapy is undertaken by a specially trained member of the staff who attends the School Clinic for all cases referred from Hyde, Stalybridge and Dukinfield—29 new cases having been referred during the year.

Dental Inspections are carried out by a School Dentist who is directly under the control of the County Medical Officer. Treatment of pupils who have no regular private family dentist, is provided at the School Dental Clinic.

The Divisional School Medical Officer is required to report periodically to the Divisional Executive for Education and he is supplied with the necessary information by the County Medical Officer for this purpose. He is also responsible for the control of infective disease among pupils, for the cleanliness of School Canteens and the food handlers, and to undertake the need for legal action appertaining to persistent uncleanness among pupils.

The following particulars relate to various aspects of the examination of the school children and give only those which are of a general character.

								Total
The number on the registers on 31/12/56 Seniors								
	Juniors, Infants	...	...	...	...	...	...	5158
" "	examined as age groups—Seniors 344, Juniors 515, Infants 504	...	...	...	...	...	...	1363
" "	examined as specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
" "	re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	460
" "	satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	100%
" "	unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
" "	of those examined who required medical treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.3%
" "	of those examined who required further observation	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.6%
" "	found to have defective vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
" "	examined for spectacles (including re-examination at Clinics)	...	...	...	...	...	...	456
" "	examined by the School Dentist in Hyde Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	3066
" "	found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1100
" "	treated in Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	1270
" "	treated under a general anaesthetic	...	...	...	...	...	...	377
Total number of attendances at Dental Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2044
Total number of attendances at Speech Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	575
Total number of examinations of children for uncleanliness								
	by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	12836
The number of children found to be verminous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	335
The number of attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	720
The number of attendances at the U.V.R. Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1394
The number of cases treated at the School Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	605
The number of attendances by the above cases (School Clinic)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1121
The number of examinations and re-examinations by Medical Officer in Clinic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	333
The number of Visits to parents by School Nurses re children	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	793

